

December 2016

The holiday season is upon us which means the University's annual winter break is almost here. For many of us, our offices, labs, and classrooms will be left empty while we relax and spend the holidays with our friends and loved ones. This means that the campus will be quiet and vacant in most of the buildings for an extended period of time. For the last ten years, the University has been saving a tremendous amount of energy due to the Winter Setback Program enacted by the Physical Plant Department (PPD).

Many years ago, during the annual winter break, campus buildings did not have the specific infrastructure to enable PPD to set temperatures back in the buildings. PPD recognized the energy savings potential while upgrading the energy control systems in many of the larger buildings. This allowed PPD to have greater control of the energy being used 24 hours a day. This energy savings program worked to identify buildings that could have the heating and cooling systems adjusted to a lower temperature over the winter break. PPD, as well as the Lobo Energy, Inc., looked at any critical activities that must maintain a strict temperature range, and also identified buildings that could participate more rigorously in the Winter Setback Program. Because of their efforts and the support from you, the University has saved hundreds of thousands of dollars since the program's birth.

The Winter Setback Program is a great opportunity for the University to save energy, reduce our carbon footprint, and avoid costs all at the same time. Our annual heating bill is over \$7 million, so continuing this energy conservation program simply makes sense. This particular program is an opportunity for each member of our campus community to contribute in conserving our precious natural resources. Thus, with this letter I am directing the UNM faculty, students, and staff to provide their support for this tremendous energy conservation project.

Building temperatures will be set back beginning December 23, 2016 and will return to normal temperatures, January 3, 2017. For information regarding energy management at UNM you may review Business Policy #5100.

You can direct questions to the Physical Plant Department.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



Robert G. Frank
President